

## Message Text

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11

ACTION CU-04

INFO OCT-01 NEA-10 ISO-00 H-02 MMO-04 /021 W

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R 140538Z MAR 76

FM AMEMBASSY JIDDA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4020

INFO AMCONSUL DHAHRAN

UNCLAS JIDDA 1844

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: SCUL, OGEN

SUBJECT: FOURTH OF JULY CELEBRATION

REF STATE 58287

1. AMERICAN INDEPENDENCE DAY OCCURS DURING HEIGHT OF SUMMER SEASON IN SAUDI ARABIA WHEN SHADE TEMPERATURE REACHES 120 DEGREES AND WHEN MOST SAUDI OFFICIALDOM AND BUSINESS LEADERS HAVE LEFT JIDDA FOR COOLER CLIME AT TAIF, THE SUMMER CAPITAL, OR ABROAD.

2. NOTWITHSTANDING ABOVE, AMBASSADOR WILL HOST TRADITIONAL EVENING RECEPTION AT RESIDENCE FOR SAUDIS AND DIPLOMATIC COLLEAGUES ON JULY 4, WHICH IS A SUNDAY AND WORKING DAY IN SAUDI ARABIA.

3. IT IS LIKELY THAT U.S. BUSINESS COMMUNITY, WITH SOME PARTICIPATION BY EMBASSY, WILL HAVE ALL-DAY BEACH AFFAIR AT RED SEA SITE SOME MILES FROM JIDDA TO WHICH ALL AMERICANS ARE INVITED AS WAS CASE LAST YEAR.

4. COUNTRY TEAM IS DEVELOPING PLANS FOR SEVERAL BICENTENNIAL EVENTS AND ACTIVITES, SOME OF WHICH ARE PLANNED FOR THANKSGIVING DAY WHEN LCIMATE IS MORE SUITABLE FOR EXPANDED OUTSIDE AFFAIRS. WE ARE, HOWEVER, STUDYING POSSIBILITY OF HAVING A LARGE FIREWORKS DISPLAY OFF JIDDA COASTLINE AFTER SUNSET ON JULY 2, WHICH FALLS ON FRIDAY AND THE DAY OF THE WEEK WHEN MOST OF JIDDA POPULACE FLOCK TO  
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THE SEASHORE TO SEE THE SUN DESCEND. WE HAVE ALSO REQUESTED

SEPARATELY THE VISIT OF A LARGE U.S. NAVAL SHIP, HOPEFULLY  
A CARRIER, BUT TIMING OF VISIT UNKNOWN AT THIS POINT.

5. ANY AMERICANS TRAVELING IN KINGDOM DURING OUR RESTIVITIES  
WILL BE EXTENDED CORIDAL WELCOME.  
PORTER

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